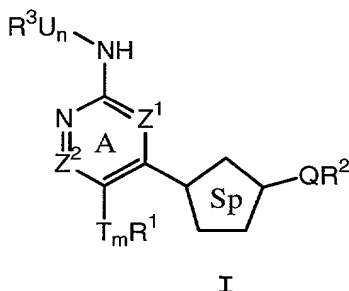


Abstract

Described herein are compounds that are useful as protein kinase inhibitors having the formula:



wherein Z¹ and Z² are each independently nitrogen or CH and Ring A, T_mR¹, QR², U_nR³, and Sp are as described in the specification. The compounds are especially useful as inhibitors of ERK2 and for treating diseases in mammals that are alleviated by a protein kinase inhibitor, particularly diseases such as cancer, inflammatory disorders, restenosis, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease.